

Forbidden Dance



TOKYOPOP®

4 Hinako Ashihara

Forbidden Dance

Volume 4

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Los Angeles • Tokyo • London

Forbidden Dance



FORBIDDEN DANCE 4

CONTENTS

Forbidden Dance Conclusion 9

Kiss + Alpha 71

Land of Happiness 77



AYA FUJII
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
SHE HAS BEEN TRAINING IN
CLASSICAL BALLET SINCE
SHE WAS VERY YOUNG.



AKIRA HORIYA
LEADER OF THE
ALL-MALE DANCE
TROUPE "COOL."



DIANA ROBERTS
A WORLD FAMOUS
BALLERINA.

STORY

AYA IS A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO LOVES BALLET. ONE DAY, AYA GOES TO A BALLET PERFORMANCE BY "COOL" AND BECOMES DEEPLY MOVED BY AKIRA'S STYLE OF DANCE. AYA WISHES TO JOIN "COOL," THE ALL-MALE DANCE TROUPE. DESPITE THE STRICT REQUIREMENT SET FORTH BY AKIRA, AYA SUCCESSFULLY JOINS "COOL."

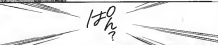
DIANA ROBERTS, A WIDELY RECOGNIZED BRITISH DANCER, COMES TO SEE AKIRA. SHE CAME FOR A BIG PERFORMANCE IN JAPAN, HEARING THE FACT SHE HAS A SEVERE ANKLE INJURY, WHICH PUTS HER CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL DANCER AT RISK.

AFTER FINDING OUT SHE CANNOT DANCE ON THE LEVEL SHE WAS ACCUSTOMED TO, DIANA BEGINS TO SUFFER FROM A MAJOR NERVOUS BREAKDOWN. ONLY A FEW WEEKS AWAY FROM "COOL'S" ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCE, AKIRA DECIDES TO TAKE DIANA BACK TO ENGLAND. AKIRA LEAVES JAPAN, TELLING AYA THAT HE WILL TRY TO GET BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AKIRA HADN'T RETURNED TO JAPAN EVEN ON THE DAY BEFORE "COOL'S" BIG PERFORMANCE, MAKING EVERYONE ANXIOUS...

Forbidden Dance Conclusion









DON'T WORRY, AYA.

AKIRA KNOWS THAT TOO.



HE NEEDS US MORE THAN WE NEED HIM.



OHAY?

HE NEEDS US?



I'M JUST SO WORRIED.

THIS DRIVES ME NUTS..

WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO AKIRA IN ENGLAND?

NEITHER IS AKIRA.

I AM NOT ALWAYS..

...CHEERFUL AND HYPER.



EVEN IF AKIRA RETURNS HEAK GO UPSET...

HE STILL NEEDS HIM.

I TRUST HIM.

STILL...

When I started to write the series, I didn't know much about how to write as a serial story. Fortunately it turned out to be an enjoyable experience for me. I learned a lot in the process, and hope to use the valuable experience to create a better series in the future. I would like to express my appreciation to all who supported me.

[illegible]

ORCID

1991-1992
 1993-1994
 1995-1996
 1997-1998
 1999-2000

DO NOT
REMOVE
THIS

100

ACCA

I THINK TO
AND BACK

100



MAYBE YOU
HAVE, BUT YOUR
TRUE NATURE
WOULDN'T CHANGE
SO EASILY.

IN JAPAN,
YOU HAVE
FRIENDS AND
"COOL"
MEMBERS
WHO TRUST
AND LOOK UP
TO YOU.

THAT MIGHT
HAVE CONVINCED
YOU THAT
YOU'VE CHANGED
YOUR LIFE.



I saw this
thing last
month, about
eight days
ago.

DEEP INSIDE,
YOU'RE STILL
THE BLOOD-
TYPE YOU
WERE BEFORE
JAPAN.



SO...

WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING
TO DO
NOW?

YOU
KNOW,
THIS IS
NONE OF
YOUR
BUSINESS,
IS IT?



BUT, SUDDENLY,
I GOT GOOD
FEEL.

I WENT TO
THE AIRPORT
TO CATCH A
FLIGHT TO
JAPAN.



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S BEING
WITH ME.



AM I
RIGHT?

COMING
BACK TO
ENGLAND
BRINGING BACK
MEMORIES OF
THE PAST FOR
YOU WHEN YOU
HATED YOURSELF.
THAT'S
CHALLENGED
YOUR SELF-
CONFIDENCE.

YOU MUST BE
SCARED...



I'VE LOST EVERYTHING.
I COULDN'T TAKE TWO STEPS OUT OF JAPAN, UNTIL YOU HELPED ME.

... I WOULDN'T BE HERE TO SEE MY MOTHER IF YOU HADN'T BROUGHT ME BACK.

I MUST ADMIT THAT EVEN THIS TIME...



IF YOU ARE SERIOUSLY READY TO GIVE IT ALL UP...

I'M HERE TO HELP YOU NOW.

IF YOU CAN REALLY ABANDON "COOL" AND YOUR FRIENDS...



IF YOU WANT TO RUN AWAY, I WILL COME WITH YOU.



I APPRECIATED THAT YOU WERE THERE FOR ME.

SOME PEOPLE MIGHT'VE DESCRIBED OUR RELATIONSHIP AS PATHETIC, BUT I REALLY NEEDED YOU BACK THEN.

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT ME...

... BUT I WAS CRAZY ABOUT YOU TWO YEARS AGO.



I HAVE TO GET ON
THAT PLANE AND GET
BACK TO JAPAN!

I AM BEGGING YOU!!



...THERE IS
SOMETHING



I
CAN'T
LOSE



FULLY
BOOKED?

CAN'T YOU ACCOMMODATE
JUST ONE MORE
PASSENGER?

I NEED TO GET
ON THAT
AIRPLANE!

EXCUSE
ME,
SIR!

PLEASE!!



NOPE, IT'S
MORE LIKE -
I GOT
ENLIGHTENED.

YOU
DECIDED TO
FACE
IT, HUH?

かばーん
かばーん
かばーん

I'LL DANCE
BETTER
THAN ANY
OF YOU BOYS
ON THAT
STAGE!!

I'LL DANCE
JUST LIKE
A MAN,
LIKE ALL
OF YOU.

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

U
AAAA!
WHAT DID
YOU DO
TO YOUR
HAIR?!

FROM
A DISTANCE,
THE AUDIENCE
WON'T BE
ABLE TO TELL
I'M A GIRL...

...DANCE IS
EVERYTHING
TO ME.

I REALIZED
THAT...

THAT'S
AWESOME,
AKA.

I WILL PUT MY
ALL INTO
TODAY'S
PERFORMANCE
FOR AKIRA AND
FOR MYSELF
TO KEEP
"COOL" SOUNDS.

THAT'S ALL
I CAN DO.

COME ON, LET'S
GIVE IT OUR
BEST SHOT!

WE'VE
GOT TO
DO IT!
DAMNIT!

WE DON'T
HAVE A
CHOICE!

U
URGH!!
CRAP!!











PLEASE,
EXCUSE US,
MR. SUSHIRO...



CANCEL THIS
RIDICULOUS
DISPLAY OF
AMATEURISM!

DROP
THE
CURTAIN!

✦ "Aaaa" was more... ✦

We hate style was harder to draw. Still, many fans write saying that they would like to see more Aya and Aaaa remarks across. Sorry! I didn't manage to include such scenes. Idea it due to bad page allocation? Aaaa and Aya are not good at expressing their feelings toward one another. But I greatly enjoyed writing their silly conversations.







...WHERE DOES
THIS BOTTOMLESS
POWER COME
FROM?

THERE IS
SOMETHING
MAGICAL ABOUT IT.



OKAY!

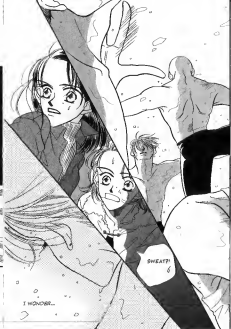
PAY NO
ATTENTION
TO THE
AUDIENCE.

PEOPLE ARE
STARTING TO
NOTICE ALREADY
IN THE PERFORMANCE.

AND, MOP
THE FLOOR
RIGHT
AWAY! THE
STAGE IS
SLIPPERY.

WE'RE
GOING TO BE
ALL RIGHT.

I'M SURE OUR ENTHUSIASM AND HIGH
ENERGY WILL REACH THE AUDIENCE.



GREAT!

I WONDER...



Ashikawa's Diary

+ pgs 1 +

In *Forbidden Divine*, I wanted to write a story about a girl who stood hard for her goal. When I was younger, I was not as focused as Aya. I wish I had positive goals to strive for back then. Writing this story was a kind of compensation for what I had missed. I used to envy people who had specific goals and dreams. I probably feel this way more strongly now because I can't go back to the past.

In this volume, *Forbidden Divine* opens to a new arc is followed by a side story called "Kiss a girl". It's written from the perspective of Tetsuya, who is a shy supporting character in the series.

When you have a chance, please read other stories of mine. Once again, deep appreciation to all the fans.

October, 1998
Masaru Ashikawa



WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK THIS BOY MADE IS? IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T COME BACK IN A TIME.

YOU LOOK HANDSOME.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAIR?



AKIRA, I...I WORRIED LIKE HELL ABOUT YOU!



YOU ARE BEYOND LATE!



IT'S NOT THE TIME TO GET LIKE A BABY!

AKIRA, GO AND CHANGE!

There have been days.



SUCH AN IDIOT!!



YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO FEEL BAD ABOUT ME!

JUST GET READY FOR THE NEXT ACT!



AND...

WELL... THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU WILL LOSE YOUR POSITION THEN... AYA.



EVERYONE, GET BACK TO YOUR ORIGINAL POSITIONS!

At night!



I REACHED ON
MY KNEES TO
LET HIM GET ON
THAT AIRPLANE.

I MADE A
SCENE AT THE
AIRPORT.



I BARELY
MADE IT
BACK HO--

A JAPANESE GUY
HAPPENED TO BE
ON THE SAME
PLANE, AND HE
GAVE UP HIS
SEAT FOR ME.



THEN I
REALIZED

I HAVE
TOO MUCH
TO LOSE.

I OVERTHOUGHT
EVERYTHING
BEHIND, AND
JUST WANTED
TO FLY AWAY
SOMEWHERE
NEW.

I...

...SUDDENLY
LOST
CONFIDENCE
IN MYSELF.



THAT DOESN'T
SOUND LIKE
ME.
DOES IT?



AKIRA!



DUDE!



I WILL BE
THERE FOR YOU,
NO MATTER
HOW WRONG
YOU ARE ABOUT
YOURSELF!



LOOK AT ME! HERE
IS A GIRL WHOSE
LIFE WILL BE
CHANGED BY YOUR
EXISTENCE
ALONE.

HOW DARE
YOU LOSE
CONFIDENCE IN
YOURSELF!

I'VE GONE A LONG
WAY TO DANCE
WITH HIM.

K3

...I'VE THOUGHT I
WAS GONNA
BE AWAY SO
MANY TIMES.

...I'VE
GONE A LONG
WAY TO DANCE
WITH HIM.

...FOLLOW HIM.





YOU OBTAINING
DUTY
LOOK WHO'S
TALKING.

WE HAVEN'T
PRACTICED
TOGETHER
FOR SEVERAL
WEEKS...

BESIDES,
I—

I'M NOT
SURE
ABOUT
THIS.
THIS IS
SO SUDDEN.



DANCER
GIRL!

ASH

THAT'S WHY...



ASA,
LOOK AT ME.
WILL YOU
DANCE
WITH ME?



CHANGE
RIGHT
AWAY!

GET
READY
FOR
ACT 3!

WHAT?



I PROMISED
TO DANCE
WITH YOU,
REMEMBER?

THE
"PHANTOM
DANCE."

ARE YOU
SERIOUS?

I'M
HERE
TODAY.



AKIRA IS
THE BEST
THING THAT
HAS EVER
HAPPENED
TO ME.

WHY IS
THERE A
FEMALE
MEMBER
IN 'COOL'?!
I'M SO
SHOCKED!

WHAT?

NO
KIDDING!

A
GIRL?

HE MADE THE
WORST FIRST
IMPRESSION.

I THOUGHT
HE WAS
A CREEPY AND
DEVILISH
BOY.

NOW...

THE MORE
I KNOW
ABOUT
AKIRA,
THE MORE
HOOKED
I AM.

LET'S
DO IT!







AKIRA IS
MY ANGEL.

THIS IS
MORE
THAN
JUST A
ROMANCE.

HE IS
MORE THAN
SOMEONE I
LOVE.





HERE'S TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE

DANCE

Pick up



「COOL」

COOL, THE DANCEY ALL-STAR TROUPE
COOL, the dancing all-star troupe
group's, gave a successful
underground performance last night.
age 18, the crowd was very lively
and, just the way to show the
the club scene. The audience was
taken by surprise by the appearance
of the first female member
of the group. Cool's unique and
powerful performance greatly won
everybody's attention.

Great costumes and wonderful dance—

(FORBIDDEN DANCE VOL.1) * THE END * PUBLISHED IN BEGGATSU
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